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REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 17th December 1892.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	Bengali.			
	Fortnightly.			
1	"Ahmadí"	Tangail, Mymensingh	600	
2	"Bankura Darpan"	Bankura ...	.....	
3	"Grámvásí"	Ramkristopur, Howrah	1,000	
4	"Kaliyuga"	Calcutta ...	.....	
5	"Kasipur Nivási"	Kasipur, Barisál ...	280	
6	"Navamihir"	Ghatail, Mymensingh	500	
7	"Sadar-o-Mufassal"	Tahirpur, Rajshahi ...	.....	
8	"Ulubaria Darpan"	Ulubaria ...	700	
	Tri-monthly.			
9	"Hitakari"	Tangail Mymensingh	800	Without date.
	Weekly.			
10	"Bangavásí"	Calcutta ...	20,000	10th December 1892.
11	"Banganivási"	Ditto ...	8,000	9th ditto.
12	"Burdwán Sanjívaní"	Burdwan ...	335	6th ditto.
13	"Cháruvártá"	Sherpur, Mymensingh	400	5th December 1892.
14	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca ...	2,200	11th December 1892.
15	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	825	9th ditto.
16	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	212	
17	"Hitavádí"	Calcutta ...	.....	8th ditto.
18	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Berhampore ...	.....	
19	"Navayuga"	Calcutta ...	500	
20	"Prakriti"	Ditto ...	.....	10th ditto.
21	"Pratikár"	Berhampore ...	609	9th ditto.
22	"Prithivi"	Calcutta ...	.....	
23	"Rangpur Dikprakásh"	Kakinia, Rangpur ...	.....	
24	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	800-1,000	7th ditto.
25	"Sahayogi"	Barisál ...	342	
26	"Sakti"	Dacca ...	.....	
27	"Samáj-o-Sáhitya"	Garibpore, Nadia ...	1,000	
28	"Samaya"	Calcutta ...	3,000	9th ditto.
29	"Sanjívaní"	Ditto ...	4,000	10th ditto.
30	"Sansodhiní"	Chittagong ...	.....	11th & 18th November and 2nd & 9th December 1892.
31	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	300	10th December 1892.
32	"Som Prakásh"	Calcutta ...	600	12th ditto.
33	"Srimanta Sadagar"	Ditto ...	.....	
34	"Sudhákar"	Ditto ...	3,100	9th ditto.
35	"Sulabh Samáchar"	Ditto ...	.....	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Date of papers received and examined for the week.
	Daily.			
36	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ...	Calcutta ...	500	6th to 10th December 1892.
37	"Bengal Exchange Gazette" ...	Ditto ...	.....	9th and 12th to 15th December 1892.
38	"Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká" ...	Ditto ...	1,000	11th to 15th ditto.
39	"Samvád Prabhákar" ...	Ditto ...	1,500	9th, 10th, 13th & 14th ditto.
40	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	9th, 10th & 12th to 15th ditto.
41	"Sulabh Dainik" ...	Ditto ...	.....	9th, 10th & 12th to 15th ditto.
	ENGLISH AND BENGALI.			
	Weekly.			
42	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca ...	.....	12th December 1892.
	HINDI.			
	Monthly.			
43	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samáchár Patrika."	Darjeeling ...	50	
44	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna ...	250	
	Weekly.			
45	"Aryávarta"	Calcutta ...	750	
46	"Bihar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	500	8th ditto.
47	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,200	8th ditto.
48	"Champaran Chandrika"	Bettiah ...	350	
49	"Desí Vyápári"	Calcutta ...	.....	
50	"Hindi Bangavásí	Ditto ...	.....	12th ditto.
51	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto ...	500	
52	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto ...	4,500	
	URDU.			
	Weekly.			
53	"Akhbar-i-Al Punch"	Bankipore ...	.....	12th ditto.
54	"Anis"	Patna ...	.....	
55	"Calcutta Punch"	Calcutta ...	.....	
56	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide" ...	Ditto ...	340	9th ditto.
57	"General and Gauhariasfi"	Ditto ...	.....	12th ditto.
58	"Mehre Monawar"	Muzaffarpur ...	.....	
59	"Raisul-Akhbari-Murshidabad" ...	Murshidabad ...	150	
60	"Setare Hind"	Arrah ...	.....	
61	"Shokh"	Monghyr ...	.....	
	URIYA.			
	Monthly.			
62	"Asha"	Cuttack ...	165	
63	"Echo"	Ditto ...	.....	
64	"Pradíp"	Ditto ...	.....	
65	"Samyabadi"	Ditto ...	.....	
66	"Taraka and Subhavártá"	Ditto ...	.....	
67	"Utkalprabhá"	Baripada ...	.....	
	Weekly.			
68	"Dipaka"	Cuttack ...	.....	10th & 17th November 1892.
69	"Samvad Váhika"	Balasore ...	200	9th & 17th ditto.
70	"Uriya and Navasamvád"	Ditto ...	420	12th & 19th ditto.
71	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack ...	420	
	PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.			
	BENGALI.			
	Fortnightly.			
72	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	480	
73	"Silchar"	Silchar ...	500	28th November 1892.
	Weekly.			
74	"Srihatta Mihir"	Sylhet ...	332	

I.—Foreign Politics.

The *Hitavádí*, of the 8th December, advises the Government of India to keep itself neutral in the Chitral affair, as any complication with the Mehter may lead to an embroglio with Afghanistan, and ultimately with Russia. HITAVADI, Dec. 8th, 1892.

The Chitral affair.

2. The *Hindi Bangavásí*, of the 12th December, sees in the complications on the North-Western frontier evil omens for India, and a sure sign that a difference between the English and the Amir is imminent. HINDI BANGAVASI, Dec. 12th, 1892.

Complications on the Afghan frontier.

II.—Home Administration.

(*a*)—*Police.*

3. The *Burdwán Sanjívaní*, of the 6th December, says that there can be no doubt that Babu Hemendralal Gosvami of Gopalpur, in the Burdwan district, has been murdered by somebody, and it is a matter of deep regret that such a murder, under English rule, has not been traced. The police sent up a number of men for trial, but the evidence against them was such, that the Judge who tried the case pronounced it "a fabrication from beginning to end." The result of this will be that there will be no further enquiry into this murder. It is very necessary, however, to ascertain who concocted this false evidence and thereby spoiled the case. The able Magistrate of Burdwan is requested to enquire carefully into this point, and the Lieutenant-Governor is also requested to order a special enquiry into the matter. His Honour will know, if he makes an enquiry, that murderers escape punishment not through the fault of jurors, but through the fault of the police, which investigates cases of murder. BURDWAN SANJIVANI, Dec. 6th, 1892.

The police in the Gopalpur murder case in the Burdwan district.

4. The *Sahachar*, of the 7th December, has heard that the Lieutenant-Governor has ordered that certain duties of Police Inspectors shall henceforward be performed by the clerks of the Honorary Magistrate, and says that it is difficult to understand how this arrangement will work smoothly. Sir Charles is not so skilful in reconstructing as he is in destroying. SAHACHAR, Dec. 7th, 1892.

Performance of police duties by the clerks of Honorary Magistrates.

5. The *Bangavásí*, of the 10th December, says that, in the Midnapore sessions held in the month of November last, six persons were accused of murder, but were all acquitted on one of the witnesses for the prosecution confessing in cross-examination that he had been tutored by the police to give the evidence he had given. But if this witness had not made this confession, fancy what the fate of the six innocent persons who had been sent up for trial would have been. It is on evidence of this kind, got up by the corrupt police, that the Lieutenant-Governor wants to see accused persons convicted! The writer would now like to know how the Lieutenant-Governor has punished the Midnapore police for their conduct, as exposed in the evidence of the abovementioned witness. BANGAVASI, Dec. 10th, 1892.

The police in a murder case in the Midnapore sessions.

6. The same paper asks, now that jury trial has ceased to exist in murder cases, who is to blame for the failure of the Gopalpur murder case in the Burdwan district, and calls upon Sir Charles Elliott, upon Mr. Power, the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, and upon the District Magistrate, Mr. Williams, to point out the person who fabricated evidence in such a momentous case. Who is the man to whom it is owing that this case of a most horrible murder has ended in such failure? The writer is not sorry that jury trial has been abolished, but he considers it very important to know, who is to try the men that bring about such miscarriage of justice as has occurred in the Gopalpur murder case? The four Brahmins sent up for trial in that case were either the real culprits or were not. If they were the real culprits, but got discharged in consequence of defects in the evidence, who is to be held responsible for this miscarriage of justice? Can anything be more disastrous than murderers escaping punishment in consequence of the police getting up false evidence for want of true evidence? And if the four Brahmans were not the real culprits, just conceive the horror of the police—of men, that is, who have been appointed to protect the people—sending up innocent persons for execution on the gallows! A murder is committed—the murderer is not found—and the police try to get four innocent persons hanged for it, thus making the number of the murdered *five*, where the BANGAVASI.

The police in the Gopalpur murder case in the Burdwan district.

number was only *one*! Who is to be held responsible for this? Must the people of this country get no redress for their wrongs in this life, and remain content with their belief in the judgment in the life to come?

(*b*)—*Working of the Courts.*

BURDWAN SANJIVAN, Dec. 6th, 1892.

7. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 6th December, says that the sad termination of the Gopalpur murder case is alone sufficient to show that murderers escape punishment not through the fault of jurors but through the fault of the police, which collects evidence. There was no jury in the Gopalpur case, and yet so false was the evidence produced by the police, that the Judge and assessors who tried the case had no alternative but to acquit the accused. That jurors used in some cases to acquit persons accused of murder was because the evidence produced by the police in those cases was as unreliable as that produced by them in the Gopalpur case. And so long as false evidence continues to be produced, murderers will be acquitted by honest Judges, no matter whether they are tried with the help of jurors or assessors. It is not known whether the persons sent up by the police as murderers in the Gopalpur case were the real culprits. But supposing they were, the Judge could not be blamed for acquitting them, for a Judge must decide cases on the evidence, whatever the nature of that may be, which is placed before him. The Lieutenant-Governor has committed a great mistake by abolishing jury trial instead of reforming the police; and it is a matter of regret that His Honour has been unable to see what is clear enough to everybody, namely, that murderers escape punishment through the fault of the police, and not through the fault of jurors. If His Honour had been as much solicitous to bring about a satisfactory administration of justice as he is to get accused people punished, he could have enjoyed no mental peace after issuing his order for the curtailment of jury trial.

The moral of the Gopalpur murder case in the Burdwan district.

SAHACHAR, Dec. 7th, 1892.

8. The *Sahachar* of the 7th December, says that a rumour is afloat that Government is willing to come to a compromise on the jury question. The public will be exceedingly glad if Government has the good sense to do so. That Government knows well how to make honest compromises was clearly shown by its conduct in the prosecution of the *Bangavasi* news paper. But the Indians should see that they are not outwitted by English diplomacy. The Europeans accuse the Asiatics of craftiness, but it is the Asiatics who have always been beaten in the game by Europeans. One does not feel inclined to believe that Government will deceive the people. But the Bengal Civilians are now destitute of all influence, and, to speak the plain truth, the writer has no faith in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces Civilians, who are men of a very different stamp. They are unable to read the signs of the times who think that this country should always be treated as a conquered country. If Sir Charles Elliott repeals his jury notification, British prestige will increase twenty-fold. Hindu and Mussulman sovereigns used to act exactly in accordance with the wishes of the people in times of popular discontent. The Sultans of Turkey used to throw to their people the severed heads of oppressive Uzirs! That was certainly a barbarous practice, but it was a clear proof of the fact that the Sultans heard their people, and this practice of theirs had the desired effect of pacifying the latter.

The question of compromise.

SAHACHAR.

9. The same paper says that no reference was made to Sir Charles Elliott's administration at the last St. Andrew's Dinner. But, for all that, Sir Charles knew that even those Anglo-Indians who did not condemn him openly had set him down in their minds for a retrograde and illiberal ruler. His Honour, therefore, tried to pour oil upon troubled waters. He said that the English Government in India is transacting every business openly, and that it has nothing to conceal. His Honour spoke of the conflict between the Government and the public in this country as the contest between the stroke and the bow oars of a boat, which is only apparent, and has the happy effect of propelling the vessel of the State prosperously on to its destined haven. Sir Charles has turned the vessel of the State at the instance of the bow-oars, and he has now heard what the side-oars have to say to that. He must also have seen the report in the

The jury question.

newspapers of what Justices Prinsep and Ghosh recently said from the Bench about the abolition of jury trial. And Justice Norris made the following remark the other day in giving his decision in a sessions case: "If the misfortune that has befallen the Mufassal had also befallen Calcutta, and I had to try the case without a jury, I would have no alternative but to say that the accused had acted in good faith." Certainly, the Lieutenant-Governor now sees that no one except the flatterer *Englishman* and the flatterer *Pioneer* approves of his action. But those papers would also approve of his action if he were to extend the jury system to the whole of Bengal. His Honour should bear in mind that the opinion which history will record of an English ruler will be the opinion that may be formed of him by the *people* of the country. Riding roughshod over people's rights is no new thing in history or a very praiseworthy thing either. History has branded with infamy many a wretch guilty of that offence. Can such a position be, then, at all enviable? The *Indian Daily News* hopes that Sir Charles will correct his mistake before the proposed monster meeting is held. The writer, too, has all along entertained such a hope. No good ruler ought to be obstinate and morbidly sensitive about his own reputation. Acknowledgment of error means a great heart, and the rulers are very few in number who have been fortunate enough to earn imperishable glory by the acknowledgment of error. Consider the following scene from English history:—The rebel Wat Tyler has been struck down. His furious followers are about to attack the king's men. At this juncture, the young king, Richard II., boldly advances towards the rebel ranks, and addresses them thus:—"Children! your leader is slain, but do not be sorry for that. I will be your leader. Follow me." These noble words act like water upon a raging fire. Sir Charles will not have to deal, like King Richard, with ignorant rebels. He is in the midst of a civilized population. Let him correct his mistake, and the people will make him their leader, and bless him with all their heart. There is nothing that conduces more to the enhancement of prestige than a frank acknowledgment of error.

Sir Charles Elliott's distinction of native and European in the jury question.

10. The same paper refers to the Lieutenant-Governor's taking the opinion of the Standing Counsel, Mr. Phillips, with the view of protecting the right of jury trial enjoyed by the Anglo-Indians, and remarks that Sir Charles Elliott is reputed to be a strong ruler and a very bold man. But one must observe here, though it is painful to do so, that His Honour has not shown in this act the boldness of a despot, for despots make no distinction of classes.

SAHACHAR, Dec. 7th, 1892.

The Lieutenant-Governor at the St. Andrew's Dinner.

11. The *Hitavádi*, of the 8th December, says that, though the Lieutenant-Governor was present at the St. Andrew's Dinner, he did not touch many questions relating to the administration, and extremely disappointed the gathering by not even alluding to the jury question. His Honour said that the Government of this country had very little to conceal, and a great deal to gain from publicity, and that it was the interest of Government that its intentions should be clearly understood by its subjects. But His Honour's studied concealment of his intention in regard to the jury system clearly shows the difference that exists between his words and his actions. His Honour also advised the non-official European community to be on friendly terms with the officials, and the manner in which he emphasized this view seems to mean that, in giving expression to it, he had in his mind the coalition which is taking place between non-official Europeans and the natives on the jury question.

HITAVADI, Dec. 8th, 1892.

Working of the Jury Notification.

12. The *Pratikár*, of the 9th December says that there arose the other day a practical difficulty in carrying into effect the Jury Notification in connection with a sessions case tried in Murshidabad. It was contended that the case should be tried with the help not of assessors, but of a jury. The Judge allowed the contention. Such difficulties will often arise in connection with the jury question.

PRATIKAR, Dec. 9th, 1892.

The Dacca authorities in the agitation against the jury order.

13. The *Bangavási*, of the 10th December, is loath to believe that the authorities at Dacca refused to lend the use of the Dacca Northbrook Hall for a public meeting to protest against the jury order of the Government. Such action is calculated to discredit the Government.

BANGAVASI Dec. 10th, 1892.

BANGAVASI. Dec. 10th, 1892.

The proposed meeting against the jury order.

14. The same paper says that, according to the *Indian Mirror*, the proposed public meeting at Calcutta to protest against the jury order is being postponed, because there is some hope of the authorities coming to a compromise with the public on the subject. But the writer does not approve of this course. He fears lest the proposed meeting should meet with the fate of the meeting which was proposed to be held at the Town Hall with a view of petitioning Parliament against the Consent Act, and carrying on an agitation in England against that measure. And this is the more to be feared, as many of the people who posed as leaders in the Consent Act agitation have also taken the lead in the jury agitation.

BANGAVASI.

The Deputy Magistrate.

15. The same paper has the following:—

The Deputy Magistrate at the sadar station has to attend cutcherry before 11 o'clock in the morning, and cannot get away till 9 or 10 o'clock in the evening; and during the 10 or 11 hours that he has to remain in cutcherry he has not even breathing time. And all this hard work notwithstanding, he must receive rebukes and submit *kaifiyats*. He may be rebuked and remonstrated with by almost every body from the District Superintendent of Police to the common constable, not to speak of the District Magistrate, the Divisional Commissioner, the Board of Revenue, the Lieutenant-Governor, the High Court, and, perhaps, even the District Judge. He has no end of duties to perform—from excise inspection to the disposal of petty cases of nuisance—and from sitting at the treasury counter to estimating the paddy on the cultivator's field. The law forbids even an ordinary labourer to be worked more than eight hours a day in any mill or manufactory, and provides punishment for any infringement of this rule by millowner or factory manager. But, alas! this humane law does not apply to the Deputy Magistrate, for the Deputy Magistrate, it would seem, is a creature inferior even to the ordinary factory cooly. But the Deputy Magistrate would have borne all this hardship in silence, would not have grumbled to wear his life out with hard work, if he had not also to show a large percentage of convictions, under the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor, who has made it a rule to judge of his competency by that percentage. In his recent Resolution on the Rajshahi Administration Report, the Lieutenant-Governor has clearly laid down that a Deputy Magistrate should on no account assume the dignified rôle of a judicial officer, and that in every case that is brought before him it should be his duty to supply all missing links in the evidence by proper investigation, and to do his best to secure a conviction. The Lieutenant-Governor has told the Deputy Magistrate, almost in so many words—convict—and convict—and convict—in every case that is brought up for trial. Putting aside the question of hard work, is it possible for a human being to accept a Deputy Magistracy on such a hard condition as this, on the condition, that is, of leaving all his conscience aside? But such is the condition to which a Deputy Magistrate must submit, if he would win the favour of Government.

BANGAVASI.

The Deputy Magistrate judged by the Darwinian theory.

16. The Panchananda, the humourist of the same paper, has furnished the following English para:—

"Darwin in his theory of the descent, or ascent, of man traced creation through all its steps up to, or down to, man himself, with just one link missing, namely the one between monkey and man. Sir Charles Elliott's constant touring has pretty nearly enabled him to discover the missing link. For, does he not, in his Resolution on the Administration of the Rajshahi Division, think that Deputy Magistrates are expected to supply the missing link? His Altitude M. C. Panchanand, thinks so too, and in exultation cries, Eureka!"

SANJIVANI. Dec. 10th, 1892.

The sentence passed upon the editor of the *Hitakari*.

17. The *Sanjivani*, of the 10th December, says that the editor of the *Hitakari* newspaper, Mir Masaraf Hossein, has been sentenced to one year's imprisonment and to a fine of Rs. 1,000, for having taken from a raiyat, on behalf of the female zamindar of Delduar, whose Manager he was, a bond for the arrear of rent which that raiyat owed to her. People think that this heavy punishment has been inflicted upon Mir Masaraf Hossein for a light offence because he is a newspaper editor.

18. The same paper says that Mr. Justice Norris is reputed to be a good man, but one is loath to believe this after what has been reported in the *Englishman* newspaper as remarks made by him during the examination of two Bengali witnesses in a murder case lately tried at the High Court Sessions. One of the witnesses having said—"When the murdered man was struck down I ran away," the Honourable Judge is said to have remarked—"That is a characteristic of your nation." The other witness having tried to suppress the truth, while declaring "I will never tell a lie," the Judge is reported to have said—"Lying is deeply ingrained in your nature. Not one among you knows how to speak the truth."

SANJIVANI, Dec. 10th, 1892.

Mr. Justice Norris on the Bengali character.

If Mr. Justice Norris really made these remarks, is it not pertinent to enquire—"What must one think of the veracity of the English people, if one is to judge of it by the veracity of the accused English soldiers in the Dum-Dum murder case?" In almost every case of murder of a native by a European, not only do English witnesses try to suppress the truth, but English Judges also are found to fail in doing strict justice. If one were to measure the veracity of the English people by cases like these, should not one be justified in saying that the countrymen of the Editor of the *Englishman* are great cowards and liars?

19. The same paper says that it is a noble trait in the English character that they are not afraid of acknowledging error. Will Sir Charles Elliott then be afraid of acknowledging his error? It is no wonder at all that weak man should fall into error. But all honour to him who has the courage to acknowledge his error. The whole country will resound with Sir Charles Elliott's praise, if he now repeals his Jury Notification from an honest conviction that it will prove prejudicial to the interests of the country. The peop'e of Bengal are deeply pained by the abolition of jury trial in the more serious cases, and this is why wails have been raised all over Bengal. All Bengal is filled with alarm and uneasiness on hearing of the restriction of the jury system, and there are many who are anxiously wondering where the next blow will fall.

SANJIVANI.

The jury question.

Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohan Tagore and Maharaja Durga Charan Law having lately waited upon the Viceroy to inform him of this alarm and uneasiness in the public mind, His Excellency has graciously promised to reconsider the jury question. This promise of the Viceroy will not fail to evoke quite an outburst of loyalty in the loyal Bengali. On hearing of this promise the proposed protest meetings at Bhowanipore and in the Calcutta Town Hall against the jury order have been postponed.

Some officials think, after the clamour that has been made by the Bengalis, that British prestige will suffer by the withdrawal of the Jury Notification. But none but a mad man will ever believe that the power before which the whole world trembles can be really frightened by the clamour of the Bengalis. By holding public meetings, the people of Bengal have only informed Government of the pain which the jury order has caused them. And they have ceased crying as soon as they have heard of the Viceroy's promise to listen to their prayer. Ought the Government to make any delay in showing kindness to the people after this?

The English Government will only display its kindness, if either the Viceroy or the Lieutenant-Governor himself now corrects the mistake that has been made by restricting the jury system in Bengal. And the loyalty of the people will become deeper and firmer, when they shall see Government showing its respect for justice in this way. The next sitting of the National Congress will take place shortly. It is to be hoped that Sir Charles will not fail to show his generosity by repealing the Jury Notification before the Congress sits. If he does not do so, people will know that he is not disposed to be kind, and they must perforce agitate more vigorously. And when that agitation reaches England, redress is sure to come.

20. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 12th December, says that it would neither look well nor be proper for the representatives of the British Government in this country to keep unrepealed an order which has given universal dissatisfaction. And it can, indeed, be scarcely believed that a Government, which is strong

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Dec. 12th, 1892.

The jury question.

enough to stand on its own legs, and which is always desirious of pleasing its subjects, will hesitate to withdraw such an order. There can be no doubt whatever that, if the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor only reconsider their order, the country will get what it wants. Both the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor are no doubt convinced of the unanimity of the protest, and may be also feeling that, if the order is not repealed, the protest will become fiercer, and an agitation will be started even in England. And they must know, on the other hand, that, if the order is repealed, there will be an outburst of gratitude and loyalty in the country, far surpassing in magnitude the discontent that has been aroused by its promulgation. It is to be hoped, therefore, that if the people keep themselves waiting for a while, expecting a repeal of the order, they will not have to suffer disappointment. But if they are disappointed, there will arise for them no cause for repentance or remorse; for, by waiting, they will have done what became them as subjects of the British Government, and nothing more. It is not the people that have brought about the jury difficulty; the jury difficulty has been created by an erring Government, and it is the duty of its loyal subjects to point out to it its error. The offenders in this case are not the people, but the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor; and if the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor do not correct their error, it is they that will remain offenders for ever, and feel the remorse of unexpiated guilt.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Dec. 10th, 1892.

The Lieutenant-Governor on the opinions of the High Court Judges on the jury question.

21. The same paper cannot understand how the Lieutenant-Governor could say in his report on the jury question that most of the *experienced* Judges of the High Court emphatically condemned the system. It is clear, however, that if His Honour had not said something like this, in order to emphasise, as it were, his own dislike of the jury system, and desire for its abolition, the Government of India would not certainly have given its assent to its partial withdrawal. According to the Lieutenant-Governor, only those Judges of the High Court are the most *experienced* Judges who have spoken unfavourably about jury trial, and all the other Judges are *inexperienced* men! And so, according to His Honour, Sir Comer Petheram and Messrs. Justices Trevelyan, Beverley, Norris, Ghose, and Banerjee are all *inexperienced* Judges, whilst Messrs. Justices, Prinsep, Pigot, Wilson, and Macpherson are *partly experienced* and *partly inexperienced*, because they have spoken partly in favour of and partly against the jury system, and Messrs. Justices Tottenham, O'Kinealy and Amir Ali are the *most experienced* Judges, because they have condemned the jury system out and out. But not even the *most experienced* Judges of the High Court, it is to be noted, have advised the abolition of the system, total or partial.

Both the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor have insulted those Judges of the High Court who have expressed themselves in favour of jury trial, the Lieutenant-Governor by calling them *inexperienced* Judges, and the Viceroy by endorsing this estimate of the Lieutenant-Governor. Everybody sees how grossly Messrs. Justices Norris, Ghose and Banerjee have been insulted by the Lieutenant-Governor. And the High Court Judges have felt this insult, as has been proved by Messrs. Justices Prinsep, Ghose and Norris expressing in open court their disapprobation of the conduct of Government in the jury question.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA.

The public feeling in the jury question.

22. The same paper says that if the Lieutenant-Governor has heard from any Bengali that the jury order has not caused dissatisfaction among the people, then it must be said, without hesitation, that His Honour has heard a lie. There may be those who may tell His Honour such things in order to please him; but no Governor should believe what a flatterer says, or he may get himself into trouble.

SULABH DAINIK, Dec. 12th, 1892.

The jury question.

23. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 12th December, says that the reassuring effect on the people of the Viceroy's promise to reconsider the jury question ought to show to His Excellency how loyal are the Bengalis, who are often charged by Englishmen with sedition.

Sir Charles Elliott, too, ought to consider whether it is proper for a ruler to oppress a people who feel so grateful for only one word of hope heard by them.

"Sir Charles!—God has given you power. Make a good use of it, and earn eternal glory. Look with the eyes of a man, and not with the stern eyes of a ruler, and you will see that seventy millions of Bengalis are relying absolutely upon your mercy. Do not pain them by robbing them of one of their rights.

"If you secure to them their right, God will bless you. You have now an opportunity for showing your nobleness of heart. Do not by any means let your opportunity pass by."

24. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 13th December, has the following on the jury question:— DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Dec. 13th, 1892.

Lord Lansdowne on the jury question.

Partiality for the jury system is a characteristic of the British nation. Sir Charles is an Englishman and British blood flows in his veins. How is it, then, that he dislikes the jury system? It seems as if the very nature of Englishmen is changed after coming to India. Well, Sir Charles came to this country some 30 years ago, and it is, therefore, possible for his British nature to have undergone a change; but, it is not likely that Lord Lansdowne, who came out to India only 4 years ago, can have been similarly affected. It is, therefore, our belief that Lord Lansdowne entertains, and cares to entertain, no independent opinion in any matter connected with the Government of this country, and, wanting in experience as he is, deems it prudent to be guided by his experienced Councillors and by Provincial Governors like Sir Charles Elliott.

25. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 13th December, cannot bring itself to believe that a good man like Mr. Justice Norris really cast aspersions upon the Bengali character from the Bench of the High Court in the way he is reported to have done. History and the *Purans* bear testimony to the unrivalled truthfulness of the Bengalis. The mendacity of a single Bengali witness can hardly justify an impeachment of the veracity of the whole Bengali nation. Can Mr. Justice Norris say that there are no cheats and liars among Englishmen? SULABH DAINIK, Dec. 13th, 1892.

Mr. Justice Norris on the Bengali character.

26. The same paper has the following :—

Lord Ripon created a gulf between the Natives and the Anglo-Indians by his Ilbert Bill. But, thanks to the Jury Notification of Sir Charles Elliott, that gulf is now bridged over. The Anglo-Indians have now heartily united with the natives to protest against the jury order. SULABH DAINIK.

Natives and the Anglo-Indians on the jury question.

Sir Charles!—You have indeed done us a great wrong. But you have also done us incomparable good, by making yourself the cause of the restoration of cordial relations between us and the Anglo-Indians. And you, too, *Englishman*, may be sure that your sycophancy will have no effect upon the Anglo-Indians. The *Capital* has given expression to the right English feeling on the jury question.

Many thanks to you, then, O Lieutenant-Governor, for we will not remember the evil you have done us by your Jury Notification after the good we have derived from it. The saying, "out of evil cometh good;" has this day found for itself a striking illustration. We are feeling heavenly bliss at the restoration of cordial feelings with the Anglo-Indians. We do not know how you will like this. But to us it is extremely gratifying.

27. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 14th December, says that the advice which the *Indian Daily News* is now giving to Government in the jury question is that, the Anglo-Indians being no longer willing to support the natives in this matter, Government should not withdraw its jury orders, for to do so, out of deference to native opinion, would involve a loss of prestige on the part of Government. Indeed, the position is one of great difficulty for the natives. If they had not protested against the Jury Notification, their silence would have been interpreted as acquiescence in the new arrangements, and now that they have protested, Government and the *Indian Daily News* say that, to listen to their protest, would be to impair the prestige of British rule, and imperil the safety of the Empire. It seems that these jury orders will be confirmed for the very same reason that the Consent Bill was passed into law. It is a difficult problem that the Indians are now called upon to solve. They will, it would seem, find no deliverance, until India itself goes to wrack and ruin. DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Dec. 14th, 1892.

The jury question.

DAINIK-O SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Dec. 14th, 1892.

28. According to the *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 14th December, what the Maharaja of Vizianagram says on the jury question is not entitled to much weight, for the Maharaja is yet young and inexperienced, given more to pleasure-seeking than to work, skilled in pleasing Englishman, and possessing little knowledge of politics and political economy. Can the Maharaja lay his hand on his heart and say that he finds in the jury system all the evils that Sir Charles Elliott attributes to it? It is true Indian princes are often obliged to say and do what they do not like to say or do. But it is, for that very reason, far better to leave a throne, and to retire into forest life, than to insult truth and justice.

The Maharaja of Vizianagram on the jury question.

It seems that the Maharaja thinks of bringing about a compromise on the jury question by soothing Sir Charles with sweet words. He has, therefore, praised the Lieutenant-Governor's ability, liberality, love of justice, and capacity for work, and declared that from no other person is so equitable an arrangement about jury trial to be had as from Sir Charles. But it is not easy to see any necessary connection between liberality and love of justice. Nor is it to be supposed that a Lieutenant-Governor, with such a high certificate for love of justice, will require adulation from a Maharaja in order to repeal his Jury Notification.

The Maharaja's utterances are logically weak throughout. And if these utterances really represent his views on the jury question he must certainly be set down for a man with a weak head.

But if he has been forced to say what he has said, he should be pitied. The sage Chanakya has rightly said that a fool can conceal his folly only so long as he does not open his mouth.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Dec, 15th, 1892.

29. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 15th December, has the following:—

The jury meeting.

We knew full well that the Lieutenant-Governor would not listen to our prayer, and rescind his Jury Notification. We knew also that His Excellency the Viceroy would not interfere. We have cried in the wilderness! No blame will, therefore, attach to us if we continue to protest and agitate. Surely we are very unfortunate; nor are our rulers less unfortunate. For how can we call our rulers fortunate, when they have failed to please their subjects?

As it is certain that many influential Anglo-Indians will join us in the proposed Town Hall meeting, we may still hope that the Home Government, at least, will do something for us.

In the 24-Parganas also there will be a similar meeting; but the place where that meeting is to be held has not yet been fixed. It was to have been held in the hall of the London Mission College, but unfortunately the missionaries have received an order from the Bengal Government, prohibiting them to lend it for the purpose of holding political meetings. But it does not look well for Government to issue such an order to the college authorities. Again, Government has no right to give such orders to the authorities of the schools which receive aid from it. The only right it possesses in reference to such schools is to require them to show whether the money they receive from it is properly spent or not. Have the authorities of the London Mission College forgotten what their own rights are?

(*c*)—*Jails.*

CHARUVARTA, Dec. 5th, 1892.

30. The *Cháruvártá*, of the 5th December, highly approves of the Resolution of the Government of India on the Report of the Jail Committee of 1888, and says that, if the improvements suggested by the Committee are carried out, Indian jails will become very different from what they are at present.

Jail reform.

(*d*)—*Education.*

SAHACHAR, Dec. 7th, 1892.

31. The *Sahachar*, of the 7th December, hopes that the Lieutenant-Governor will appoint Babu Chandra Mohan Majumdar, Assistant Inspector of Schools, as Inspector of Schools in the Rajshahi Circle, in place of Mr. Bellet, when the latter retires from service, which he will shortly do. Chandra Mohan Babu is fully worthy of the responsible post of an Inspector of Schools.

The Rajshahi Inspectorship of Schools.

32. The same paper can not advise Government to establish a separate college for the benefit of the Eurasians. There are few Eurasians who have up to this time succeeded in obtaining the higher degrees of the University, and a separate college for them will therefore answer to no want.

SAHACHAR, Dec. 7th, 1892.

A separate college for the Eurasians.

33. The *Hitavádi*, of the 8th December, says that the present educational policy of Government is only an indirect method of increasing taxation. Government says to the people:—"We will not spend on your education what we used to spend before; it is for yourselves—for your District Boards—and for your municipalities to look to your education. We will devote our educational grant of 20 or 25 lakhs of rupees annually to some other purpose. Let your District Boards and municipalities meet your educational expenditure by increasing the rates they levy." Sir Charles Elliott believes that it is the duty of a municipality to give primary education to all children living within its jurisdiction. Now, considering that the present income of the municipalities is hardly sufficient to meet the ordinary requirements of sanitation and of public comfort and convenience, what can this belief of Sir Charles Elliott mean, if not this—that he wants these bodies to increase their rates? But when Government proposes to increase taxation, it seems to forget all about the impoverished condition of the people. And it may be also asked, with perfect justice, if it is really the duty of a municipality to give primary education to all children living within its jurisdiction. A municipality's responsibility in this respect is certainly not so clear as that of the Government itself, which levies taxes from the people on various counts. Is it a legitimate duty of a municipality to grind under increased taxation rate-payers who are already overburdened with rates, and is it not the duty of the Government, which collects various taxes from the people, to spend a portion thereof on their education? It does not look well for the Government, which is so anxious to shuffle this clearly-defined responsibility off its own shoulders, to read a didactic lecture to municipalities for not doing what appears to be after all a very doubtful duty of theirs. It is not many years since Government determined, on the recommendation of the Education Commission, to withdraw a part of its grant for higher education, and devote it to primary education, and it now wants to withdraw itself from primary education too!

HITAVADI, Dec. 8th, 1892.

The present educational policy of Government.

In his Resolution on the last Public Instruction Report, the Lieutenant-Governor has expressed himself not very favourably about the remarks of the Presidency Inspector of Schools on the subject of grants to primary schools within the jurisdiction of the Calcutta Municipality, and His Honour has been rather sharp in his strictures upon Mr. Tawney in connection with the question of the abolition of the zilla schools. The writer can on no account approve of Sir Charles Elliott's intention of abolishing the zilla schools, or of transferring them to the management of the District Boards, and of depriving school-masters of their justly-deserved pensions. The work of a school-master is the most important and difficult in the whole civil service of the county, and one must deprecate Sir Charles Elliott's proposal to make a saving to the State by depriving school-masters of their poor pensions!

It is clear that Government wants to raise fresh funds from the people for their education. But, instead of doing this by imposing a direct provincial tax, the Lieutenant-Governor wants to shift the unpleasant task on to the Municipalities and the District Boards.

34. The same paper says that the prayer of the candidates for the ensuing Arts Examinations for postponement of the examinations for three weeks beyond the appointed dates, ought to be granted, as the text-books prescribed for the examinations are in every case too numerous to be fully gone through within the time allowed. The University does not seem to keep its senses when it prescribes text-books for its examinations.

HITAVADI.

The coming Arts Examinations.

35. The *Banganivási*, of the 9th December, says that Sir Charles Elliott's proposal to withdraw Government aid from the primary schools within the limits of the Calcutta Municipality, and to compel the Municipality to grant aid to those schools, will not be for the good of the rate-payers of Calcutta

BANGANIVASI, Dec. 9th, 1892.

Maintenance of primary schools in Calcutta.

The proposal is only a development of Sir Charles' destructive policy in matter educational.

BANGANIVASI, Dec. 9th, 1892.

Dramatic performances by school-boys.

36. The same paper says that, far from being beneficial to the students, as Lieutenant-Governor expects, dramatic performances by school-boys are calculated to do them great harm.

BANGANIVASI.

The Text-Book Committee.

37. The same paper says that the order of the Director of Public Instruction requiring any member of the Text-Book Committee who may be a friend or relation of an author not to be present at the discussion of that author's books is expected to give satisfaction to all.

PRATIKAR, Dec. 9th, 1892.

Sir Charles Elliott's scholarship for scientific research.

38. The *Pratikár*, of the 9th December, remarks that though Sir Charles Elliott has done a very praiseworthy action by founding a scholarship for original scientific research, the ill-feeling he has aroused in the public mind against himself will not be thereby removed. As the Sanskrit maxim goes—"A single fault often outweighs a number of good qualities."

PRATIKAR.

Compulsory physical culture.

39. The same paper has the following on the question of physical culture :—

We are, of course, not averse to physical exercise; but the idea of forcing physical exercise upon boys, by University regulation, is certainly bad. The thoughtless and inexperienced Fellows of our University, who are responsible for this rule, do not perhaps foresee that it will indirectly encourage fraud and deceit among the candidates for the University examinations. The Senate should consider this point.

SAMAY, Dec. 9th, 1892.

The physical exercise question.

40. The *Samay*, of the 9th December, fully supports the Calcutta University in their ruling that candidates for the Entrance, First Arts, and B.A. Examinations must go through a course of physical exercise for a prescribed period.

SARASWAT PATRA, Dec. 10th, 1892.

The question of physical education.

41. The *Sáraswat Patra* of the 10th December, says that, although one is delighted to see school-boys performing athletic exercises, it is not desirable that they should do so at the expense of their studies. The writer does not see the necessity of the University taking any further action in the matter; for, in his opinion, the practice of giving lessons in gymnastics, as already existing in Government schools and colleges, should be considered sufficient.

SANJIVANI, Dec. 10th, 1892.

The Lieutenant-Governor's offer of a gold medal to the Presidency College.

42. The *Sanjívaní*, of the 10th December, cannot but praise the Lieutenant-Governor for his proposal to award a gold medal next year to the student of the Presidency College who will write the best essay on a given subject.

SANJIVANI.

Mr. Billing, Principal of the Krishnagar College.

43. The Krishnagar correspondent of the same paper says that the writings in this paper against Mr. Billing, Principal of the local College, have greatly unsettled that dignitary. The other day he tried to rid himself of his spleen by abusing the unknown correspondent to his heart's content in the 4th year class. He told the students that he had at first thought of applying to the Director of Public Instruction for permission to stick several copies of the *Sanjívaní* on the walls of the college, in order to show the shameless correspondent the contempt he felt for his writings. Then the Principal told the students how he used, while in the Calcutta Madrassa, to read to the boys the attacks upon him that appeared in the public prints, and how this expression of contempt soon silenced his assailants. Mr. Billing spent a whole hour in such talk.

PRAKRITI, Dec. 10th, 1892.

A University scandal.

44. The *Prakriti*, of the 10th December, writes as follows:—

We are all proud of Dr. Gurudas Bannerji, and it grieves us to hear anything against him. And this is why we request Dr. Gurudas to resign the Vice-Chancellorship. At every step Dr. Gurudas is giving proof of his incompetency and is losing public sympathy and confidence.

We have heard of an incident which, if true, will clearly show that the University is an institution in which self-interest and deception have full play.

In the last examination in Sanskrit for the M.A. degree, a student of the Hislop College at Nagpur was a candidate. After the papers had been

examined and marks given, the examiners held a meeting, and agreed that the marks assigned by them, respectively, were final. It was then found that the Nagpur student would head the list, and the Sanskrit College man would be second in order of merit. On seeing this, one of the Examiners felt very uneasy, and forgetting all about the agreement, expressed a desire to re-examine his papers. The result of that was that the Sanskrit College student got the first place and the Nagpur man was made second.

This is in the highest degree scandalous, and no one would be more glad than ourselves if the report given above should prove to be false.

A Bengali text-book.

45. A correspondent of the same paper observes that, even after so many improvements in the Text-Book Committee, such a book as *Kavita-bodha* by Babu Banga Chandra Sen appears in the Committee's list. The writer points out what he considers many ridiculous errors in that book.

PRAKRITI, Dec. 10th, 1892.

The question of physical exercise.

46. The same paper says that it is, no doubt, a very good thing to make boys attend to their physical welfare, but if physical exercise is insisted on, the University authorities should reduce the number of the text-books prescribed for their examinations. It is a general complaint among boys, nowadays that they have too many books to read.

PRAKRITI.

List of examination text-books in the Dacca Circle.

47. Babu Mahesh Chandra Datta, head master of the Baburhat School, in the Tippera district, writes in the *Dacca Prakash*, of the 11th December, to the following effect:—

DACCA PRAKASH, Dec. 11th, 1892.

As the next upper primary examination is likely to take place before the Durga Puja, there are not more than nine months for the boys to read for it. But the list of text-books for that examination in the Dacca Circle cannot yet be obtained, even by application to the Office of the Inspector of Schools. The list of text-books for the upper primary examination in the Rajshahi and Burdwan circles, it may be stated here, was published long ago in the *Education Gazette*. The students of the 2nd class in middle vernacular schools are also suffering inconvenience, on account of the Director of Public Instruction's list of text-boks for the middle vernacular examination in 1894 not having been yet published. The list of text-books for the middle vernacular examination in any year ought also to be published immediately before the holding of that examination in the preceding year. It is to be regretted that such irregularities should take place under so able an Inspector of Schools as Babu Dinanath Sen.

Resignation of the Vice-Chancellorship by Justice Gurudas Bannerji.

48. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 12th December, is glad that Justice Gurudas Bannerji has given up his connection with the Calcutta University, which has become an object of public ridicule and whose affairs are grossly mismanaged.

SULABH DAINIK, Dec. 12th, 1892.

The question of physical exercise.

49. The *Som Prakash*, of the 12th December, is of opinion that many students will be put to great inconvenience by the ruling of the Calcutta University making physical exercise compulsory. The rule ought to be cancelled.

SOM PRAKASH, Dec. 12th, 1892.

Surveying and Book-keeping in the Entrance Examination.

50. Referring to the proposal to substitute Surveying and Book-keeping for the 3rd and 4th books of Euclid at the Entrance Examination, the *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 12th December, asks if the Calcutta University, whose one object under the law is the furtherance of high and liberal education, has the power to include in its curriculum business-training like a teaching of Surveying and Book-keeping. There are also other obstacles to the introduction of practical subjects like Surveying and Book-keeping into the Entrance curriculum. One of them is that most Entrance schools will find the maintenance of a Surveying class beyond their means. A proposal like this would not certainly have been made if there had been many men of wisdom and experience in the University.

SOM PRAKASH.

But the writer forgets that the University has already gone far enough to recognize wrestling and jostling as a part of liberal education; and instead of being surprised by the proposal about Surveying and Book-keeping, he should prepare himself to see Billiard and Badminton included some day in the University curriculum!

SOM PRAKASH, Dec. 12th, 1892.

Dramatic performance by school-boys.

51. The same paper cannot agree with the *Hindoo Patriot* in thinking that no moral injury is done to school-boys by their being allowed to indulge in dramatic performances, and asks did not the father of the Scotch historian, Robertson, look upon such performances as not quite innocuous, and therefore forbid his son, a boy, to witness such performances?

SOM PRAKASH.

The Vice-Chancellorship.

52. The same paper says that, after Dr. Bannerji, the Vice-Chancellorship of the Calcutta University ought to be given to Sir Romesh Chunder, but Mr. Justice Ameer Ali will probably get it.

DACCA GAZETTE, Dec. 12th, 1892.

Sub-Inspectors of Schools as Pound Inspectors.

53. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 12th December, asks whether the poor Sub-Inspectors of Schools, who have been ordered by the Lieutenant-Governor to inspect cattle pounds in addition to their own duties, will receive any extra remuneration for so doing.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI, Dec. 6th, 1892.

The village roads under the Burdwan Boards.

54. The *Burdwán Sanjívaní*, of the 6th December, says that the Burdwan District Board has paid no heed to the Lieutenant-Governor's order inviting greater attention to the village roads. The allotment under that head made by that Board this year is only Rs. 5,000, against Rs. 10,000, in previous years. And the Sadar Local Board has allotted only Rs. 2,000 this year for the construction and repair of roads in more than 400 villages under its jurisdiction. Since the allotment is so small, money should be spent this year for the benefit of those villages alone which have not received any grant for a long time, and which suffer most on account of bad roads.

BHARAT MITRA, Dec. 8th, 1892.

A Hindu temple on the Harrison Road.

55. The *Bhárat Mitra*, of the 8th December, says that the breaking down of the Hindu temple on the Harrison Road, at Barabazar, will certainly lead to a riot like the one which occurred at Shambazar. It is hoped, therefore, that the authorities will see their way to leaving the temple alone. The temple is now th· property of the Calcutta Municipality, but cannot some Hindu millionaire purchase it, and obviate the necessity for its demolition?

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.

BANGANIVASI, Dec. 9th, 1892.

Roads in the Jessore district.

56. A correspondent of the *Banganivási*, of the 9th December, says that the annual grant from the Jessore District Boards for the construction and repair of roads is not judiciously distributed among all the subdivisions, nor is the money judiciously spent. Money is wasted on the annual repair of unimportant roads, while important roads, like the Mahmudpur road and the Jhenidah road, are left in a miserable condition.

(h)—General.

SANSODHINI, Nov. 11th, 1892.

The sanitary condition of Sitakunda, in the district of Chittagong.

57. The *Sansodini*, of the 11th November, complains of the filthy condition of a large tank at Sitakunda, in the district of Chittagong. Government is the owner of this tank, and it is in the possession of the *Mohant*. Either Government or the *Mohant*, or the Court of Wards should re-excavate the tank, and thus remove the want of good drinking-water in the place, and improve its sanitary condition. The Manager under the Court of Wards and the Magistrate are requested to take prompt action in the matter, in view of the approaching *mela*.

SAMAY, Dec. 9th, 1892.

The Hurdwar Resolution.

58. The *Samay*, of the 9th December, makes the following remarks on the Hurdwar affair:—

The proceedings of the Commission were in the form of an ordinary police investigation, and Sir Auckland Colvin has read their report in that light. The laws of no other country would have allowed of such *ex parte* proceedings.

Of the two Commissioners appointed to conduct the enquiry, one was a Government servant and the other an Honorary Magistrate. Both had, therefore, reasons to please the Government, and it is no wonder that they have acquitted the police on all the charges.

Sir Auckland Colvin has assigned two reasons for not believing the testimony of the witnesses examined bythe Commission on behalf of the public. The first is that the matter was not brought to the notice of Government immediately after the occurrence; and the second is that most of the so-called eye-witnesses were inhabitants of Hurdwar and places near it, people, that is, who had sustained pecuniary loss in consequence of the breaking up of the fair. Now, as regards the first reason, it may be stated that, had Sir Auckland read the newspapers of that time with his eyes open, he could not have said that the oppressions were not brought to the notice of Government at the time when they occurred. There was not a paper in all India which did not, at that time, raise a cry against this police oppression. As regards Sir Auckland's second reason, it involves a very novel view, which is that no interested person can be a competent witness.

Again, the proceedings of the Commission were confined to one place only, although the writer repeatedly stated that, if the Commission had held its sittings in some of the principal cities of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces, more evidence of a reliable nature would have been forthcoming.

Sir Auckland has said nothing about the witnesses examined on the side of the police. The public have, therefore, no means of knowing who they were, and what they were like. The result of the enquiry has given the public no satisfaction.

The Office of the Excise Commissioner.

59. The *Prakriti*, of the 10th December, fails to see what benefit will be derived from the removal of the Head Offices of the Excise Department to Dacca, and the annual exodus of the same to Darjeeling. The arrangement will certainly be a wasteful one.

PRAKRITI, Dec. 10th, 1892.

The Hurdwar affair.

60. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 11th December, says that it has been proved by more than a hundred witnesses that a great attack was made upon the Hindu religion at Hurdwar. The Hindu pilgrims who were oppressed at Hurdwar are not for the most part readers of newspapers, and are not aware that any redress is to be had by making complaints to the authorities. And that is why not a single witness, so to say, from any other place than Hurdwar appeared to give evidence. The two Hindu officers who were employed by Government to conduct the enquiry have disbelieved the evidence of more than one hundred witnesses, on the ground that they are interested witnesses. And on the strength of the report of those two officers, Sir Auckland Colvin has found fault with the British Indian Association for raising a hue and cry about oppression at Hurdwar, and has in a manner hinted that it is that Association that has fabricated evidence against the police! The British Indian Association is not at all a religious association, and the orthodoxy of many of its members is extremely doubtful. If the Association, therefore, interested itself in the matter, it must have done so solely under the conviction that the Hindu pilgrims had been greatly oppressed. One can see no earthly reason why the Association should take it upon itself to fabricate evidence at a place so far removed from Calcutta. The matter would have been placed in a clear light, if it had been enquired whether the Hindu officers in question and the witnesses who gave evidence on behalf of the police were not men who might be expected to be anxious to secure the favour of a Christian Government. That the police treated the Raja of Dehra with respect is no proof that it similarly treated common pilgrims. What does it matter, again, that no other oppression was committed, when the breaking up of a religious fair, on the ground of public health, was itself a serious act of oppression? If the police is invested with the power of driving away the Hindus from their holy places on an outbreak of cholera, Hindu pilgrimage will be at an end, for, when deaths from cholera take place every week in large towns like Calcutta and Dacca, a few such deaths cannot fail to take place in large assemblages at places of pilgrimage. It does not seem that the dissatisfaction which Government has caused in the public mind by breaking up the fair at Hurdwar will soon disappear.

DACCA PRAKASH, Dec. 11th, 1892.

The Hurdwar Commission.

61. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 12th December, has the following on the Hurdwar Commission's report:—

DAINIK O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Dec. 12th, 1892.

(1) Jwala Prasad says that, in dispersing the pilgrims, the police did not close the temples or interfere with the worship. But Nehal Chand says that, considering the nature of the precautionary measures adopted, it is probable

that the police had the temples closed. And a large number of witnesses gave evidence which supported Nehal Chand's view. In appears, therefore, that Jwala Prasad has told a falsehood in order to please his masters, and it is for the public to judge of the honesty of Sir Auckland Colvin's action in accepting Jwala Prasad's view.

(2) Eleven of the priests who gave evidence deposed to the fact of the sacred fish having been killed by the police. But Jwala Prasad says that the priests had their own ends to serve in giving this evidence. But how could he believe the police who had obviously greater interests to serve in denying the killing of the fish? His official position seems to have emboldened Jwala Prasad to trample justice under foot. He would have done best to refuse to serve on the Commission. Sir Auckland Colvin attaches great importance to the fact that Jwala Prasad is a Hindu. But if Jwala Prasad had been a true Hindu, he would have found himself on the Commission in a position in which he would have preferred suicide to writing a report.

(3) Not even the Police Superintendent could deny that *pindas* were trampled upon, though he added that the trampling was accidental. But the witnesses unanimously said that the *pindas* were wilfully trampled upon. But supposing the trampling was accidental, the carelessness of the police, who had no business to be present at a place where *pindas* were being offered, was certainly inexcusable.

(4) Most of the witnesses deposed to having observed the police setting fire to houses for the purpose of expelling the pilgrims, but Jwala Prasad says that the houses caught fire of themselves. And would not a Magistrate like Jwala Prasad have been punished for perjury in any other country than India? Did the houses take fire themselves in order to get the police officers into trouble? Probably the atmosphere in Hurdwar got converted into combustible vapours, in order to become fit for the reception of cholera germs, and thus occasioned the fires.

(5) Not even Jwala Prasad has been able to deny the acceptance of bribes by the police, but he will not blame the police for this!

III.—Legislative.

Banganivasi, Dec. 9th, 1892.

Sir Charles Elliott on the reconstitution of the Legislative Councils.

62. The *Banganivási*, of the 9th December, says that the Lieutenant-Governor's remarks at the St. Andrew's Dinner regarding the proposed reconstitution of the Legislative Councils were certainly very sweet to hear. But, unfortunately for his subjects, His Honour's actions seldom accord with his words, and they would probably be building castles in the air if they were to indulge in speculations in the expectation that Sir Charles Elliott would fulfil his words in regard to the reform of the Councils.

Sudhakar, Dec. 9th, 1892.

Working of the Consent Act.

63. The *Sudhákar*, of the 9th December, makes the following remarks on the working of the Consent Act:—

No one can deny that consummation before puberty is going on as before, and prosecutions for that offence are very rare. And it is certain that, among the prostitutes of Calcutta, girls under twelve are subjected to inhuman and brutal tortures. To this day one sees too many of these girl-unfortunates exposing themselves in the public streets under the very nose of the police. What have the authorities done to remedy this public nuisance? Was the Act passed only with a view of destroying the sanctity of the *zanana* and punishing respectable people? Is this the liberality and justice of the British Government?

Prakriti, Dec. 9th, 1892.

Dr. Rash Behary Ghosh's re-appointment to the Indian Legislative Council.

64. The *Prakriti*, of the 10th December, is glad to see Dr. Rash Behary Ghosh re-appointed a member of the Indian Legislative Council. It is no small honour, says the writer, for a native of India to obtain a seat in that Council more than once.

V.—Prospects of the Crops and Condition of the People.

Charuvarta, Dec. 5th, 1892.

Distress at Sherpur, Mymensingh.

65. The *Cháruvártá*, of the 5th December, writes that the price of rice is rising every week at Sherpur, and exportation is the principal cause. The writer draws the attention of the District Magistrate to this, and says that, if nothing is done now, the distress of the people will not abate even by the time of the harvest.

VI.—Miscellaneous.

66. It is stated in an issue of the *Hitakari*, bearing no date, that the editor of this paper has been sentenced by the Deputy Magistrate of Tangail to rigorous imprisonment for a year and a fine of Rs. 1,000 rupees. The writer asks all well-wishers of the paper to pray to God that justice may be done to the editor by the District Judge to whom the case has been appealed. HITAKARI.

The editor of the *Hitakari*.

67. A correspondent of the same paper writes as follows:— HITAKARI.

Indian agitation.

Surendra Nath may rend the skies with his declamations or offer his very life-blood for the good of his country, but neither declamation nor life-blood will avail us. It will not fare well with the country so long as the English do not come to know that we have united among ourselves, and have learnt to love our mother-country as Englishmen love theirs, and to help each other as brothers. Shrewd as the English are, they have been able to see that our Agitation, our Congress, our Societies, and Associations are all empty things, and they do not, therefore, pay much heed to them. But we are stupid enough to believe that there are Englishmen—members of Parliament—who wish us well and really strive for our good. Is it not like finding water in a mirage to expect Englishmen, so characteristically patriotic as they are, to help a people who cannot help themselves? It is true some Englishmen are occasionally found to espouse our cause, but who shall say that in doing this they are not prompted by motives of self-interest? Yesterday Sir Charles Elliott passed the Chaukidari Bill—to-day he has abolished jury trial—to-morow he will abolish the colleges and schools—and day after to-morrow he will withdraw Local Self-Government! And in Assam the Chief Commissioner has increased the land revenue, as if the English Government was on the verge of bankruptcy for want of money. But the English cannot be blamed for all this. It is certain they have not come all the way from England to India for pious purposes. It is money for which they have come to India—and money they must have at any price—and they cannot care whether *you* live or die! Their one business here is money—and they are satisfied if they have it.

Agitation will do you no good—you have agitated much—but has your agitation ever succeeded? You agitated against the Consent Act—! against the Bihar Cadastral Survey—but with what result? The fact is, the English care a fig for your agitation.

68. The *Banganivási*, of the 9th December, is not sure if it was in reference to any particular community that the Lieutenant-Governor said at the St. Andrew's Dinner that he thought it desirable for the good of the administration, that the members of Government and the *members of the unofficial world* should see and know more of each other than they at present did. If the Lieutenant-Governor referred merely to the unofficial Anglo-Indian community, the writer should have nothing to say. But if His Honour meant to refer to the whole unofficial community in the country, then must it be said that His Honour himself has been rather slow and unwilling to cultivate such feelings between himself and the people at large, as His Honour seems so much to desire. For, did he not, whilst mixing rather freely with unofficial people, conceal from them, till the very last moment, the intentions of Government in regard to the jury system? Probably it is the want of good dinners in native circles which prevents His Honour from opening his mind to them. Everybody must admit that Sir Charles Elliott has seldom acted up to the sweet words which he uttered at the St. Andrew's Dinner. BANGANIVASI, Dec. 9th, 1882.

The Lieutenant-Governor at the St. Andrew's Dinner.

69. The *Sudhákar*, of the 9th December, says that the animals in the Zoological Gardens are very poorly fed, both as regards quantity and quality, and requests the authorities to look to this and take better care of the poor creatures. SUDHAKAR, Dec. 9th, 1892.

The animals at the Zoo'.

70. The *Education Gazette*, of the 9th December, has the following on the Government Resolution on the Statement of works of Public Utility Constructed by Private Individuals in Bengal in 1891 :— EDUCATION GAZETTE, Dec. 9th 1892.

Decrease of charitable works in Bengal.

The people of this country have never been niggardly in their expenditure on charitable works, and their public and private charities are always large.

But the reason why the expenditure on works of public utility constructed by private individuals in these provinces has gone on decreasing during the last few years is that they are at present called on to contribute to a large number of useless projects, and the result of that is that they find themselves unable to spend as much as they wish on really useful works. All this clearly shows that the wealth of the country is gradually decreasing.

PRAKRITI, Dec. 10th, 1892.

The Congress.

71. The *Prakriti*, of the 10th December, has the following on the Indian National Congress :—

It is very unfortunate that no one knows as yet who will be the President of the coming Congress. Mr. Mano Mohun Ghosh, it is said, has declined to accept that office, and some papers say that Mr. Norton of Bombay will be the President. Whoever the President may be, the writer is sorry to say that he is gradually losing faith in the Congress. One by one the great supporters of the movement are withdrawing themselves from it. Bengalis are better hands at speechmaking than at action ; and the writer fears that this Congress will prove in the end mere child's play. It is a matter of regret that many wise and patriotic people have changed their views in regard to the Congress.

SULABH DAINIK, Dec. 10th, 1892.

Sir Charles Elliott.

72. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 10th December, has the following :—

A contemporary says that Sir Charles Elliott will leave for England in April next, and sarcastically remarks that, if he forgets to buy a return passage, the people of this country will not be sorry. But we do not like such extremes. Our contemporary does not perhaps see that the successor of Sir Charles may not be a better man than Sir Charles. The best thing we can do now is to pray to Sir Charles to correct the mistakes he has made.

BANGAVASI, Dec. 10th, 1892.

Panchananda's draft Code of Criminal Procedure.

73. Panchananda, the *Bangavasi's* humourist, gives the following in the issue of that paper for the 10th December :—

Panchananda, who has always been a lover of all old things and institutions, begs leave to present his readers with a draft Bill, entitled "A Bill for the Punishment of Wicked Persons," which was prepared by him nearly 12 years ago, and asks them to see whether, after so many years, this old draft Bill of his is not going to be passed into law.

AN ACT FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF WICKED PERSONS.

Preamble.

Whereas the British Government, in spite of all its various efforts in that behalf, has been yet unable to check and punish the wicked and sinful people of India, and whereas it is expedient to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure in view of the fact that the powers of Government are becoming inoperative while the powers of the people are increasing, it is hereby enacted as follows:—

ENACTMENT, REPEAL, EXTENT AND DEFINITIONS.

Short title.

1. This Act may be called the Finishing Act.

Extent.

Any place to which this Act does not apply shall be deemed to have become a scene of extreme anarchy.

Commencement.

It shall come into operation even before it is promulgated.

Repeal.

2. All enactments and regulations which are, or may hereafter be, distasteful to *Hakims*, are hereby repealed.

Pending cases.

3. All pending cases shall be decided in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Definitions.

4. In this Act the following words and expressions shall always have the meanings given to them below, and no other :—

Investigation.

Investigation means all acts which may be done by the police for the purpose of arresting and chalaning any person, and includes causing the puting—on of hand-cuffs.

Trial.

Trial means all proceedings held in a court for the purpose of getting a person punished, and does not mean *Khálás* (discharge or acquittal).

Criminal Court.

Court means Judges, Magistrates, and all persons who may inflict punishment.

High Court.

High Court means the court in which the vakil and Counsel for the defendant are given slaps and blows, or at least wiggings.

CRIMINAL COURTS.

Classification of Courts.

5. Besides the High Court, there shall be two classes of courts, namely:—
(*a*) The Magistrate's court. | (*b*) The sessions court.

Court in which a case shall be tried.

6. The Magistrate may, if he is so minded, try all cases. But if he be unwilling, or feel too lethargic to work, certain cases may be tried by the sessions courts.

TRIAL OF GAURANGAS OR WHITEMEN (EUROPEANS).

Gaurangas.

7. The word "*Gauranga*" means all persons, not natives, who wear coats and pantaloons, and includes all their ancestors up to the seventh generation, and all their descendants down to the seventh generation, even if not one among such ancestors or descendants should have had at any time a sight of the sea.

Right to try Gaurangas.

8. No one who is not himself a *Gauranga* shall try a *Gauranga*.

Summoning a Gauranga.

9. If the aggrieved party appears in person and prefers a complaint against a *Gauranga*, a letter of invitation, such as is sent to a gentleman, may be sent to the defendant. But, as a representative of the aggrieved party, no one may prosecute a *Gauranga*, on the plea that such party is dead, or labours under some disability, or on any other grounds. And a complaint of that kind shall not be accepted nor shall a letter of invitation issue thereon.

Trial of Gaurangas.

10. No one may punish a *Gauranga* against his wish.

POLICE.

Rendering assistance to the police.

11. Every person is bound to assist the police with his moral influence, money, men, and strength of arm, in matters hereinafter specified, namely—

(*a*) in the matter of causing breaches of the peace;
(*b*) in the matter of obtaining confessions and discovering stolen goods;
(*c*) in the matter of investigations generally.

Arresting without warrant.

12. Anybody may be arrested by the police, anywhere, without warrant.

Entering into houses.

13. If it is known or suspected, or if it is probable, or believed to be probable, that any accused person is in any particular house, or if it appears that he may by chance or mistake be remaining therein, the police may, without let or hindrance, and at their pleasure, demolish such house, break open its doors and windows, destroy its furniture, outrage honour and respectability and enter into the *baithak khana* (parlour), the privy, the *thakurghar* (the residence of the family god), or the apartments occupied by the females.

Special provisions relating to the zanana.

14. Before entering into the zanana, the police may cause hand-cuffs to be put on all the adult males in the house or cause them to be otherwise bound, and set guards over them, and may, if it is considered necessary, drag out (or bring out, in the sense of taking away for immoral purposes) the females by force from the zanana.

Investigations.

15. In making investigations, the police may, with the aid of the *shyam-chand* (shoe) obtain confessions from accused persons, and trace stolen goods.

Police investigation papers.

16. The police shall keep no record of the mode of its investigation, and any such record, if kept, shall not be admissible as evidence against the police.

PROCEEDINGS PRELIMINARY TO TRIAL.

Vakils and Mukhtars.

17. An accused person shall not, without the permission of the court, engage or propose to engage vakils or mukhtars to conduct his case. Any such proposal shall be deemed equivalent to a confession of guilt.

Powers of Vakils and Mukhtars.

18. No vakil or mukhtar for the accused may examine or cross-examine a witness, but vakils and mukhtars may, with the permission of the court, remain standing during trial, like so many dummies or figure-heads.

TRIAL BY THE MAGISTRATE.

Regular trials.

19. A Magistrate may, if he wishes, hold a regular trial, slowly, and at his leisure, and record evidence.

Summary trials.

20. A Magistrate may at his pleasure, and while taking a ride on horse-back, or a walk, try an accused person on the summary method, hurriedly and without recording any evidence.

SESSIONS TRIALS.

Jury and Assessors.

21. Every sessions case shall be tried with the assistance of a jury or assessors.

In the case of trial by jury there shall be selected at least three jurymen, and in the case of trial with assessors there shall be selected at least one assessor.

Jurors or assessors may be selected from among the spectators present [in court], porters and labourers outside, and coachmen and carters. If the required number cannot be made up in this way, draught cattle may be pressed into the service.

Trial with the aid of jury and assessors.

22. The Sessions Judge may agree with the jury or assessors, and pass sentence upon the defendant. But if the jury or assessors, or the majority of them, declare the defendant not guilty, the Sessions Judge may snap his fingers at them, and punish him on his sole responsibility.

APPEALS.

Appeal by the defendant.

23. Except in case of summary trials, the defendant may appeal against all decisions passed in regular trials as well as sessions trials.

Effect of the defendant's appeal.

24. In the case of an appeal by the defendant, a sentence of fine may be changed into one of imprisonment, a sentence of imprisonment into a capital sentence, and in all cases the sentence may be enhanced.

Appeals by Government.

25. Whenever there has been failure of justice as regards the defendant in a criminal case, that is to say, whenever a defendant has been discharged or acquitted, it shall be lawful for Government to make an appeal against such discharge or acquittal at any time before the defendant's death.

Effect of appeal by Government.

26. On an appeal by Government, the defendant may be punished, and a heavy sentence may be passed for a light offence, and the appeal may be attended with all the effects of an appeal by the defendant.

HIGH COURT.

Revision.

27. In case of failure of justice, that is to say whenever the defendant in a criminal case has been discharged or acquitted, the High Court may, of its own motion, or at the instance of some other person, call for and go through all the papers of the case, and do justice, on the ground that such discharge or acquittal may lead to anarchy or lawlessness.

GOVERNMENT.

Suspending the operation of the Act.

28. Whenever it appears to Government that, due enforcement of the provisions of this Act notwithstanding, wicked persons are not being duly and adequately checked and punished, Government may temporarily or for ever suspend the operation of this Act.

Measures to be taken on the suspension of the Act.

29. Government may, on suspension of the Act, cause a high wall to be erected all round the country, and having put the people in *jangias*, set them to work at the oil-machine.

74. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 11th December, refers to the statement of the *Capital* newspaper to the effect that no one cheered the Lieutenant-Governor on his arrival at the last St. Andrew's Dinner, or in the course of his speech on that occasion, and asks if this was due to Sir Charles' abolition of the jury system, or to his rash remarks about Anglo-Indian merchants in the Income-Tax Resolution.

The Lieutenant-Governor at the St. Andrew's Dinner.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR CHANDRIKA, Dec. 11th, 1892.

75. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 14th December, has heard the rumour that Sir Auckland Colvin has gone home in an Austrian vessel for fear of being arrested at the instance of Captain Hearsey. Will other hard rulers take a hint from this ?

Sir Auckland Colvin flying in fear.

SULABH DAINIK, Dec. 14th, 1892.

Uriya Papers.

Samvadvahika, Nov. 10th, 1892. Uriya and Navasamvad, Nov. 16th, 1892.

76. The *Samvadvahika*, of the 10th November, takes a favourable notice of the proceedings of the Relief Committee established at Balasore, with the object of relieving the distress of the Kamarda people in the northern part of the Balasore district, owing to scarcity of food. And writing on the same subject, the *Uriya and Navasamvad*, of the 16th November, calls for more public help. In connection with this subject, the *Utkal Dipika*, of the 12th November, compares the actions of the three Collectors of the three districts of Orissa, and observes that, while Mr. Cornish, the Collector of Balasore, lost no time in admitting what was pointed out to him as a fact, and in trying his best to mitigate the misery of the semi-starved people, Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Allen, the Collectors of Cuttack and Puri, respectively, could not be induced to believe that there was distress in their districts, and this in the face of stubborn facts and doleful tales of misery and starvation resulting in lamentable death.

Utkal Dipika, Nov. 12th, 1892.

Three Orissa Collectors in the distress in that province.

Utkal Dipika, Nov. 19th, 1892.

77. The *Utkal Dipika*, of the 19th November, while admitting the fact that the Government notification, withdrawing a certain number of offences from the cognizance of jurors in those districts of Bengal to which the system of trial by jury has been extended, does not affect Orissa in any way, is strongly of opinion that the action of the Bengal Government has been high-handed, and opposed to the true interests and constitutional rights of the people entrusted to its care.

The jury order.

Assam Papers.

Silchar, Nov. 28th 1892.

78. The *Silchar*, of the 28th December, says that, with the Damocles, sword of a Government prosecution hanging over his head, and with the fate of the *Bangavasi* and the *Prajabandhu* before him, the chair of a native newspaper editor must be pronounced thickly studded with thorns. But the Editor of the *Silchar* has an additional thorn in his chair, in the shape of certain treacherous natives, who send mistranslations of his writings to the Government officials and the local tea planters, with the object of clapping him in jail.

The difficulties of the Editor of the *Silchar*.

Silchar.

79. The same paper says that Sir Charles Elliott's nature has probably undergone a change, in consequence of his coming in close contact with Lord Lansdowne. The prosecution of the *Bangavasi* newspaper and the abolition of jury trial are acts which the former has done at the direction of the latter. It is to be hoped that the Bengalis, who have erected a statue to Lord Dufferin, will not fail to erect statues to these worthies.

Lord Lansdowne and Sir Charles Elliott.

Silchar.

80. The same paper is sorry to hear the rumour that the present Deputy Commissioner of Cachar will be transferred. Everybody is satisfied with that officer. Government is requested to keep him in Cachar at least another year.

The Deputy Commissioner of Cachar.

Silchar.

81. The same paper says that there is great distress in Cachar. Rice is selling at Rs. 7 per maund, and people have reaped unripe paddy in the stress of hunger. Two men are reported to have died in consequence of having eaten the flesh of a dead cow.

Distress in Cachar.

Silchar.

82. The same paper complains that a Mussulman carried the other day the head of a dead cow, completely uncovered, through the streets of Cachar town, where hundreds of Hindus were present, but without any remonstrance from the local police.

An outrage to the religious feelings of the Hindus in Cachar town.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

Bengali Translator's Office,
The 17th December 1892.

F. da C.—Reg. No. 60120—73—20-12-92.